

AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph in lines 17 -20 on page 39 with the following amended paragraph:

FIG. 20 is a set of tables showing the amino acid sequences (SEQ ID NOs: 55 to 184) of HCV peptide pool used for the investigation of cellular immune response.

Please replace the paragraph bridging pages 71-72 of the application with the following amended paragraph:

The mentioned plasmid was dissolved in 100 $\mu\ell$ of PBS, which was used as a DNA vaccine for the immunization of small animals. The first administration was performed by injecting 100 $\mu\ell$ of a DNA vaccine into both legs (50 $\mu\ell$ per each hind leg muscle) of 6 mice per each group. In some cases, the secondary intramuscular injection followed 4 weeks later. In the example (FIG. 9 – FIG. 12) aiming at enhancing the immunogenicity by antigen engineering, 100 μg of DNA was used. Otherwise, 50 μg of DNA₁ prepared by mixing 40 μg of the plasmid pGX10 gDs Δ ST and 10 μg of the mutant pGX10 mL-12, was used for the immunization in FIG. 13 and FIG. 14. 5×10^7 pfu of rAd gDs Δ ST was dissolved in saline, which was used as a recombinant adenovirus vaccine (rAd). In order to investigate cellular immune response induced after immunization, spleen cells were isolated at the indicated time. A control group was injected with saline alone.